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Action

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Grimes told Rowan ASAFS today scrapped idea of sponsoring resolution on Cuban situation. Wound up asking Thant to issue appeal to both US and Soviet Union. Says ASAFS "concerned about peace, but mostly confused" and uncertain as to what stand to take. Grimes said he "impressed" by Rowan argument US would look weak, foolish if it just talked, as some ASAFS suggested, while Soviets continue pour in more offensive offensive weapons.

Grimes said his personal view, shared by other ASAF delegates, is that Soviets should be pressed turn around ships now en route and halt further shipping to Cuba; in exchange, US would agree lift quarantine; then US, Russia and Cuba would hold talks on dismantling of missiles and offensive weapons already there.

Grimes said he and other ASAFS doubt ability get Soviets agree halt ships, but "anything else seems to me to be a collision course".

3/3/55
STEVENS

LTR/14

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